

In the face of Putin's criminal war, the Ukrainian people and their President, President Zelenskyy, have shown immense courage, resilience, and determination as they defend their country. The world stands united with them.

As a member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, I believe it is vital that the United States continue to maximize available intelligence-sharing with our Ukrainian and international allies and also maintain robust military and humanitarian assistance.

The United States must also work to declassify intelligence that reveals evidence of Vladimir Putin's malign intentions and actions, including war crimes committed.

Putin is a thug, a dictator, and an authoritarian war criminal whose crimes—past, present, and future—should be known and exposed across the world. Pulling back the veil on his actions will ensure that we hold Putin accountable and prosecute him for the war criminal he is.

America and its people will continue to show solidarity with the Ukrainian people.

#### CONGRESS MUST ACT ON WILDFIRE RESILIENCY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. NEGUSE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak on behalf of the people of Colorado who are experiencing historic, destructive, and devastating wildfires. Four of the largest wildfires in our State's history have happened in just the last 18 months.

For my community, we are no longer witnessing wildfire seasons but, instead, wildfire years. Fires are burning in August, December, and March. Our communities are under threat by worsening, more dangerous, unrelenting wildfires 365 days a year.

I would like to explain, Madam Speaker, to the American people what this encroaching threat will mean for families, for firefighters, for communities, and for our neighborhoods.

On December 30, as the Speaker may be aware, a rangeland fire, fueled by hurricane-force winds, ran through suburban neighborhoods in my district of Louisville and Superior, Colorado, forcing over 30,000 people to evacuate and destroying 1,084 homes and businesses in less than 18 hours—1,084 homes and businesses in 18 hours.

Over 1,000 families left with nothing but the clothes on their backs and the items that they carried. Their lives will forever be changed as they begin the long, challenging, complex recovery process.

The Marshall fire, now the most destructive fire in Colorado history, was not the first, and it will not be the last.

The Cameron Peak fire in Larimer County, Colorado, burned over 400,000 acres from August 2020 through December of that year. The East Troublesome

fire in Grand County grew more than 100,000 acres in 1 day. Collectively, those fires have destroyed countless structures and left millions in damages for our communities to take on.

Madam Speaker, these disasters warrant a response from the Federal Government, a bold, decisive response. We have proposed some of the potential solutions.

First, we have to start paying our firefighters a living wage. I was looking at job postings this morning, Madam Speaker, in my district. In Boulder, there are customer service representative positions at copy stores, shops, and retail establishments with a starting pay of \$20 an hour, \$23 an hour. Yet, we have Federal wildland firefighters making today \$19 an hour, \$18 an hour, \$16 an hour as they are literally sacrificing so much and putting their own lives on the line to protect our communities. It is unconscionable, and it should be unacceptable to every Member of this body.

That is why we introduced Tim's Act to honor Tim Hart, a brave smokejumper who tragically lost his life last year working on a wildfire in New Mexico.

Our bill with Representative LIZ CHENEY is the first bipartisan, comprehensive legislation of its kind to significantly raise pay for Federal wildland firefighters and ensure access to mental health services, healthcare, housing, retirement benefits, and so much more.

These firefighters are risking their lives every day, Madam Speaker. They deserve just compensation. We have to change it, and I am committed to doing everything in my power to get this bill to the floor of this House.

We also have to support our communities in recovery. Rebuilding takes time, and it takes a lot of money. It is emotionally exhausting and complex.

Last week, families in my district in Boulder who are in the process of literally rebuilding their homes lost in the Marshall fire were evacuated from their new temporary homes, rental properties in Boulder, as the NCAR fire burned as close as 1,000 yards from homes in the area. Firefighters are literally working as we speak to contain that fire.

My bill, the Wildfire Recovery Act, which recently passed out of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee last year, would help local communities like Boulder, Fort Collins, and communities across my State, from the Western Slope to the Eastern Plains, recover. It would invest money in mitigation, in resiliency.

It is time for us to get this done, Madam Speaker. I am committed to doing everything I can to get those bills and many more to the floor, and we intend to get this done.

#### RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from

Washington (Mrs. RODGERS) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the month of April as the Month of the Military Child.

I have always said that when someone joins the military, it is not just a job; it is a family commitment to our country. This is especially true for the more than 1.6 million children who have a parent on Active Duty serving our Nation, including nearly 2,000 who call Fairchild Air Force Base in eastern Washington home.

Over the next few weeks, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the thousands of brave men and women who demonstrate their courage and commitment to freedom, selflessly serving our country around the world. Let us take this time to say thank you to those in uniform keeping us safe and remind them that while they are taking care of us, we are taking care of their children.

To all the children of Active-Duty servicemembers, we salute you. We recognize your commitment to our country. We share in your struggles of not seeing your mom and dad. We support you unconditionally. Just like your parents, you are a hero in your own way, and in April, we celebrate you.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the incredible sacrifices of military children across the country and invite my fellow Americans to help us honor them with unwavering support and appreciation today and every day.

#### HONORING VIVIAN PIERESCHI

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ) for 5 minutes.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the dedicated public service and congressional career of a phenomenal woman, Vivian Piereschi.

In August 2001, the people of south Florida's 20th Congressional District, which later became the 23rd District that I proudly represent today, received a precious gift in the dedicated service of Vivian.

After more than 20 years, this daughter of Cuban refugees, who emigrated to Florida in search of a better life, ended her career making the lives of so many others better.

Vivian became a trusted adviser, advocate, and community leader.

Through four administrations and two Members of Congress, Vivian navigated the Federal Government, in all the ways it serves the American people, with a nurturing spirit and patient persistence.

When we passed the Affordable Care Act, a jubilant Vivian Piereschi said: "Now, we can help so many more people."

Whether it was passing life-changing legislation, going door-to-door to give